

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02124 150357Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 DOE-15 SOE-02 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 MCT-01 ACDA-12
OMB-01 /111 W
-----027260 160353Z /62

R 141258Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7622
INGPO RUQMKG/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2865
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2124

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PLO LE IS MOPS
SUBJ: REPORTED REMARKS OF YASIR ARAFAT IN LEBANON

1. ON APRIL 13 EMBOFF MET WITH SAMIR TRABULSI, AN AIDE
TO KAMAL SHATILA, LEADER OF UNION OF POPULAR LABOR
FORCES. (UPLF IS A PRO-SYRIAN MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL
MOVEMENT.) TRABULSI SAID THAT HE AND SHATILA HAD MET
WITH YASIR ARAFAT ON APRIL 11.

2. ARAFAT HAD STRESSED THAT THE PALESTINIANS HAD NO
INTEREST IN PROMOTING INTERNECINE CONFLICT IN LEBANON.
IN ADDITION, THE PLO WOULD FORSWEAR OPERATIONS INTO ISRAEL
"THROUGH LEBANON" AFTER THE ISRAELIS WITHDREW TOTALLY FROM
THE SOUTH.

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3. ARAFAT HAD ADDED THAT THE PLO BELIEVED THAT THE CAIRO
AND RIYADH ACCORDS MUST REMAIN THE BASIS OF ANY
SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH LEBANON. AFTER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL,
THE PLO WOULD AGREE TO LIMIT ITSELF TO POSITIONS IN
SOUTH LEBANON CALLED FOR UNDER THESE ACCORDS. THE PLO
RECOGNIZED THAT IT DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE AT
QASMIYA BRIDGE UNDER THE CAIRO ACCORDS AND WOULD

LEAVE IT AFTER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. AS LONG AS THE ISRAELIS WERE IN COUNTRY, HOWEVER, THE PLO COULD NOT AFFORD TO GIVE UP THIS BRIDGE ALONG A VITAL MILITARY SUPPLY LINE.

4. THE PLO BELIEVED THAT UNITED NATIONS SHOULD OCCUPY POSITIONS ABANDONED BY THE ISRAELIS, ARAFAT HAD SAID. IT ALSO THOUGHT THAT UNIFIL SHOULD BE STATIONED ALONG THE BORDER BETWEEN LEBANON AND ISRAEL. THIS WOULD HAVE A TWO-FOLD BENEFIT. IT WOULD PROTECT THE ISRAELIS FROM PALESTINIAN ATTACK AND PROTECT THE PALESTINIANS FROM ISRAELI ATTACK.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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